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FORMER LACONIA RESIDENT SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS
FOR IDENTITY THEFT CHARGES

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced today that **TROY GAY**, of County Farm Road, Dover, New Hampshire, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Concord to seven years in federal prison following his conviction on a two-count information for identity theft crimes. Gay pleaded guilty to the charges on June 30, 2005.

Gay, 39, a former resident of Laconia, NH, pleaded guilty to an information that charged him, in the first count, with fraudulently using credit cards or bank access numbers of 22 different individuals between December 2002 and September 2004. The second count charged Gay with aggravated identity theft for using the identity information of another person in the course of misusing bank account numbers.

The apprehension and prosecution of Gay were the result of an investigation brought to, and then coordinated through, the Identity Theft and Fraud Working Group organized in the U.S. Attorney's office, which brings together federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to combat identity theft and fraud. An intensive and coordinated investigation by agents of the Concord, New Hampshire, Police Department, the Newport, New Hampshire, Police Department, the Massachusetts State Police and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, which uncovered victims in all the New England states, ultimately resulted in Gay's apprehension and prosecution.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono commended all agencies involved stating, "The vigilance of the Concord and Newport Police Departments and the Massachusetts State Police, which first began the investigation of the fraud, followed by the joint efforts and outstanding cooperation among federal and state agencies stands as a fine example of law enforcement work and professionalism at its best. This case should serve as a warning to anyone contemplating identity fraud that they will be detected, apprehended, and prosecuted."

Assistant U. S. Attorney Alfred Rubega prosecuted this case.